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The Elements of Physics. By HENRY CREW, Professor of Physics in Northwestern University. Second edition, 1900. Price \$1.10. The Macmillan Company.

THE first edition of this text appeared in 1899. The appearance of a second edition within one year shows that there is an unusual demand for it as a text-book. The author has taken advantage of the opportunity offered by the second edition to make a few alterations, so as to bring its contents entirely within the range of secondary-school work. For example, the use of the method of limits has been given up; in all the formulæ and figures, Greek letters have given place to Roman; the trigonometrical abbreviations, such as sine, cosine, etc., have not been used, but the longer geometrical expressions have been retained; many problems have been added. To quote the author, "The purpose of these changes has been to simplify the treatment. The subject cannot be simplified."

Leaving out of account the chapter on Waves and a number of original experimental illustrations, the contents of the text differ but little from those of other elementary texts in physics. But the method of presentation is unique. It would be difficult for most teachers of physics to improve on Mr. Crew's orderly, lucid, and attractive exposition of the subject. The manner in which general principles are led up to and illustrated is admirable.

The reviewer notices that very few complicated instruments are described. For example, the tedious explanation of the action of an influence electric machine, so common to texts in physics, is wanting in this text. Those of us who believe that instruments should be studied in a laboratory and not from a text, will approve such omissions. It is intended that the use of the text shall be supplemented by a course in laboratory instruction. It is to be hoped that the author will supply a laboratory manual.

The preface, containing the author's "confession of faith," gives a number of valuable suggestions on the method of teaching physics.

GORDON F. HULL

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An Elementary Physics for Secondary Schools. By CHARLES BURTON THWING, Professor of Physics in Knox College. Benjamin H. Sanborn & Co., Boston, 1900.

THIS text contains, in addition to a simple theoretical treatment of the subject, a short laboratory manual. Both parts are entirely within the range of secondary-school work.

The author has departed from the usual arrangement of matter in inserting a chapter on Work, Energy, and Machines after dealing with Heat, Electricity, and Magnetism. This makes possible a very clear exposition of the law of the conservation of energy. A chapter on Waves contains a good deal not ordinarily treated of in an elementary text, but it is largely theoretical and lacks in experimental illustrations.

The laboratory manual covers about seventy experiments requiring apparatus of a very simple character.

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